

SPECIFICATION AMENDMENTS: DISCUSSION

Paragraphs [0033], [0034], and [0035] have been amended to correct incorrect references to drawing Fig. 9a with the intended reference, to Fig. 9.

Paragraph [0038] has been amended to correct the term “different exposure dose” to “different exposure doses” as directed by the Examiner.

Paragraph [0061] has been amended with the Examiner’s suggested clarification, specifying that the Fig. 9 referred to is Fig. 9 of the present application, as the Examiner correctly inferred. Applicant appreciates the Examiner’s identification of errors and suggested clarifications.

As the Examiner suggested, Applicant has sought other errors in need of correction. Applicant has discovered that reference number 34 was incorrectly used twice to refer to clearly different elements, in Fig. 7 and in Fig. 8. These elements are referred to in paragraphs [0057] and [0060], respectively. Applicants have corrected this obvious error by replacing the reference number 34 in Fig. 7 (of drawing sheet 5), and in the accompanying text in paragraph [0057], with the reference number 35.

A typographical error is fixed in paragraph [0063], where a period inadvertently appears within parentheses in the third sentence. The period has been deleted.

One other clarification is offered, though Applicant believes the intended meaning would have been obvious to a reader. In paragraph 65, Fig. 10b shows the section of a photomask of Fig. 10a, discussed in the immediately preceding paragraphs, in cross-section taken along line L-L of Fig. 10a. The reference to Fig. 10a is added.

An obvious typographical error has been corrected in paragraph [0095], replacing the misspelled “identity” with the intended “identify”.

None of these changes constitutes new matters, as these specification amendments either correct obvious errors or provide helpful clarifications of passages which Applicant believes would nonetheless have been interpreted correctly by those skilled in the art were the clarifications not supplied.

Applicant appreciates the Examiner's assistance in identifying errors, and has made an earnest effort to identify and correct all flaws in the specification. Applicant invites the Examiner's assistance in identifying further examples of unclear, inexact or verbose terms in need of correction.